THE ALBUQUERQUE CITIZEN

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THERE'S CRAPE ON THE DOOR.

At the home in the Highlands, about which centered his labors and his love, there lies today, unseeing, unhearing, unheeding, the earthly tabernacle of what but yesterday was Thomas Hughes; and tomorrow it will be "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

But that is not all. Apart from that realm, beyond the evening's sunset glow, where each and all of us hope to spend the ceaseless ages of an expanding eternity, there is even in this world, more for man than death and oblivion. Thomas Hughes still lives in the love of his wife, the fond appreciation of his children, the gratitude of the many to whom he had been generous, and the friendship of the hundreds who knew and loved him well.

His was a most amiable character; and he presented, probably above all men in the West, an illustration that fierce political wars may be waged without personal bitterness, that the hottest of newspaper controversies may be carried on without personal animosities. At the head of New Mexico journalism for a quarter of a century, and during the period when personal journalism in this territory predominated in its worst form, it is doubtful if he had a personal enemy in the entire newspaper fraternity. This peculiarity of his life, would be difficult to duplicate either in New Mexico or elsewhere.

But while in his death the whole territory suffers, it is Albuquerque, where he lived so long and labored so efficiently, that the sorrow is the greatest, the loss is most keenly felt. During the nearly twenty-five years of his life in this city, he was prominently identified with every movement for Albuquerque's advancement, giving thereto most freely of his time, his talent, his labor and his money. On occasions innumerable he has been known to neglect his own business to secure the city's good. He was one of the original promoters of the territorial fair, from which Albuquerque has reaped so liberal a reward. He personally carried around the subscription papers, which resulted in the erection of the first building for the Lead avenue Methodist church. In a word, for time would not suffice for the enumeration of his labors for the public good, it may be said of him that while he never turned away the needy from his door, he never withheld his hand from any enterprise for the benefit of the city he had selected for his home.

No lofty monument of marble may be erected to perpetuate the memory of his virtues, but deeply and indelibly there is written upon hundreds of hearts the pleasantest recollections of the late Thomas Hughes.

SOLUTION OF WATER PROBLEM.

On Monday evening the city council will meet, and no doubt the committee recently appointed to ascertain whether the Water Supply company desires to sell its plant in this city and at what price, and also at what cost the city could install its own up-to-date plant—no doubt this committee will be ready to report.

The Citizen has no information as to what conclusion the committee has reached or what investigations they have pursued; but it takes pleasure in calling their attention to an interview with Col. H. A. Jastro, published elsewhere in this issue, in which that gentleman tells a number of facts plainly pertinant to the present condition of the water question in Albuquerque.

From this interview it is evident that the city of Albuquerque can put in its own, ample and up-to-date plant, at an approximate cost of $75,000. THIS AMOUNT, PLACED AT 4½ PER CENT WOULD REQUIRE A YEARLY INTEREST OF $3,375, OR BUT LITTLE MORE THAN HALF OF WHAT THE CITY ALONE IS NOW PAYING FOR AN INSUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF PUBLIC WATER. IN SUCH CASE THE CITY WOULD HAVE FREE ALL THE WATER NEEDED, WHILE THE CONSUMERS IN THE CITY NEED NOT BE CHARGED MORE THAN 6 TO 10 CENTS AGAINST THE 30 AND 35 CENTS NOW CHARGED.

Not only would such a charge remove the present burden from the consumers, pay interest on the investment, maintain repairs and extensions, create a sinking fund for ultimate extinction of the bonds, but it would create a surplus to be applied to the reduction of taxation.

TWO THINGS FOLLOW. ONE IS THAT THE FRANCHISE OF THE WATER SUPPLY COMPANY SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED FOR A SINGLE DAY. THE OTHER IS THAT THE CITY CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY FOR AN ANTIQUATED AND INEFFICENT PLANT WHAT A NEW AND UP-TO-DATE PLANT WOULD COST.

IRRIGATION EXHIBIT.

One of the features of the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, Ore., which will prove of special interest to irrigators and homeseekers under government irrigation projects, is the irrigation exhibit. It will also prove instructive to eastern people who visit the fair and now know little of the marvelous results which an artificial water supply has wrought in many western localities.

The exhibit consists largely of working models of government irrigation projects, the largest being patterned after the Salt river system now being constructed in Arizona. The models show the manner of storing the water by reservoirs, the method of carrying it into the lowlands by means of canals and flumes, and its final distribution to the lands to be irrigated. There are also models of dams and reservoirs, and an exhibit of instruments used in determining the amount of water which may be utilized from any given stream.

In addition to these displays, there will be a practical illustration of irrigation methods on the grounds back of the government building, in the peninsula in Guild's lake, where there will be a small farm with crops growing on land actually irrigated.—Maxwell's Weekly.

ARIZONA THE GREAT.

For some cause, the feeling, the sentiment, the fight against joint statehood is waning throughout southern Arizona. The people are beginning to count the advantages as well as the disadvantages of the so-called merger.

The people are beginning to realize that Arizona is going to get a big additional piece of territory and it is not often the case that people refuse a gratuity such as this without very strong reasons.—Tucson Arizona Star.

The "dry farm" experts state that there are at least a hundred million acres of land distributed throughout the western states, in some places in very considerable tracts and in other sections in small patches, where the climatic conditions are such that the lands will yield crops as good as the average farm lands of the Mississippi valley. This class of development by better cultivation of the soil, in connection with the introduction by the government of foreign plants specially adapted to American arid land conditions and further joined by the great agricultural development under national irrigation will cause in the next ten years a mighty transformation in the west.

The United States owns about 550,000,000 acres of arid land. Only 6,500,000 acres are under irrigation and only 250,000 acres of this are situated in New Mexico and less than that in Arizona, although 100,000,000 acres of public land are in these two territories alone. It is estimated that if $300,000,000 would be expended during the next forty years in a large and consistent scheme of irrigation, the lands improved would be worth not less than $2,000,000,000. This estimate is by the United States Geological Survey.

CONSTITUTION A COMPROMISE JUST AS JOINT STATEHOOD

From the St. Johns, Ariz., Herald.

Col. Allen T. Bird, editor of The Oasis, a profound student of the political history of our country, in the following article favors Joint Statehood.

Students of politcal history affirm that the constitution of the United States was a compromise between the representatives of the thirteen original states framing that great instrument and a series of compromises between the states themselves. All agreed that there was need for a closer bond of union than that contained in the original Articles of Confederation framed during the storm and stress of the Revolution. Without some such closer bond there was danger of disintegration and conflict between the states, which could not fail to be taken into advantage by Great Britain to again invade America and compass reconquest. The general government, which was in reality but little more than a Congressional committee, had no independent revenue, and for its running expenses had to depend upon contributions levied by Congress upon the various states, which contributions were never promptly paid. Individual states levied tariff taxes upon imports from other states, causing friction, inconvenience and restraint upon trade. Conflicting claims of the various states in the region west of the Allegheny mountains caused strife and contention, reaching the very verge of open war. The foregoing category presents but a small portion of the evils under which the American people suffered in the period between the end of the Revolutionary war and the adoption of the constitution. All felt that a new fabric of government should be contrived. That feeling led to the calling and assembling of a constitutional convention at Philadelphia, in 1787.

But when the delegates from the various states met and organized there immediately developed a wide diversity of opinion as to the necessary form and scope of the proposed new charter of government. The small states were apprehensive of the growing might and power of those larger. The southern states feared the growth of the abolition sentiment, which had already shown itself in the north and they feared that sentiment might achieve so great a weight that slavery would be terminated, to the great loss and detriment of the people of those states where the labor system embraced human bondage; while there were in the convention delegates who wished the proposed fundamental law to provide for final extinction of slavery. These are but a few of the diverse views and interests with which the delegatess faced one another on the floor of the convention.

To concede everything asked by any one state would have immediately prevented approval by all the rest. So with profound wisdom and splendid statesmanship the delegates framed a charter which was a system of compromises. The small states were pacified by creation of a bi-cameral legislative assembly, in one chamber of which all states should have equal representation where the original proposition was for a single legislative chamber, with representation based upon population. The growing abolition sentiment was appeased with a limitation placed upon the African slave trade, and the slave states were satisfied by having the regulation of domestic service left to the various states. Many more compromises can be enumerated that were included in the instrument. As framed the constitution was not entirely acceptable to any single state. But to make it in a measure acceptable to all, the delegates from each and every state had abandoned some cherished feature they wanted put into the proposed fundamental law, and had accepted many things they did not want.

When completed the constitution went to the various states for ratification. Generally conventions were elected by the people of those states to consider the instrument and decide whether it should be ratified by the states. Ratification by nine was necessary to secure adoption of the instrument and set up the government it provided. In many instances there prevailed the utmost hostility to ratification. When the New York convention assembled at Albany to consider the question of ratification or rejection, Alexander Hamilton, who had been a delegate to the constitutional convention in Philadelphia, found himself the leader of a forlorn hope, contending at desperate odds against an overwhelming majority. But he bent himself to the herculean task, addressed the convention several hours daily through several weeks, and by the sheer force of his genius secured a majority for ratification. In his argument he admitted the constitution was not what he wanted, nor was it entirely what was wanted by the people of New York. But it was the best they could get, and he contended that it would be better to accept that and ratify than to longer endure the evils of which they complained. More than nine states extended their ratifications almost simultaneously. (Their conventions were all in session at about the same time). New York was the eighth to ratify. But some of them lagged and were later in doing so. Rhode Island withheld ratification for seven years, and did not enter the Union until 1794. Her people required that time to determine whether they would accept the terms of union presented and accepted by the rest of the states.

Lo, these many years the people of Arizona and New Mexico have importuned the people of the states to give them a chance to frame state governments and ratify the Constitution of the United States, becoming thereby full fledged American states. Heretofore that importunity has been neglected and ignored. Finally the people of the states, in Congress assembled, have taken notice of the importunity and have proposed a compromise. They are not willing to admit two states, with jointly less than half a million population, to have twice the voting strength in the United States senate than has New York with eight millions, Pennsylvania with seven millions, or Illinois and Ohio with five millions each. To get the Constitution ratified and the Union created New York, Pennsylvania and other large states were willing to let into the Union upon equal terms in the senate the small states of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, etc. Those states had to be induced to enter the compact. Without them there could have been no Union, and chaos threatened. But now things are different. The Union is an accomplished fact. States have to be cajoled to enter the Union no longer. Several states have twice the population the entire thirteen had in 1787. And the states that were then small have now populations fully as great as New York and Pennsylvania had then, while many of the states since admitted have more people than had the entire country at the time of adoption of the Constitution. Yet Arizona and New Mexico united would have but little more population than what was the average of a state when the Constitution was adopted. The people of the states have been thinking of these facts very seriously, and they will not consent to admission of these two territories separately. There is all there is to it. And the longer the matter is postponed the more pronounced and more widely extended will be the dissent of the states. Arizona and New Mexico should not forget that the population of all the great states east of the one hundredth meridian of longitude are increasing by leaps and bounds. By the time Arizona and New Mexico have jointly reached a population of one million New York City will have sixteen millions—and that great city and its state will be "sixteen to one" against granting the two territories separate statehood with four senators against only two for herself.

The question has resolved itself to this proposition: Will the people of Arizona and New Mexico ratify the Constitution of the United States and enter the Union upon terms of compromise offered by the states which framed that instrument? Or will they emulate Rhode Island, refuse to ratify anyway; and then finally accept the terms of compromise offered? So far as may be concerned The Oasis, it favors ratification now. Joint statehood is all that can be secured. While that is not what we want, it will be better than what we have. It would be the part of wisdom to accept what can be had.

EX-MAYOR FAVORS MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

(Continued from Page 1.)

the citizens of this city desire to do; that is the building or purchase of its own water plant.

"I venture the assertion that the city of Albuquerque could dispose of to very good advantage, its water works bonds having interest at 3½ or not to exceed 4 per cent. At four per cent the amount the city now pays for water would pay the interest on one hundred and fifty thousand dollars of its water works bonds."

"But," stated the reporter, "perhaps the city and the owners of the water plant could not get together as to the price to be paid by the city for the plant in the event of a negotiation for a purchase."

"This I do not believe," replied Mr. Marron. "The value of this property can be arrived at just the same as any other piece of property, and furthermore it is my opinion that our citizens desire that the city should be eminently fair and equitable in this matter. The same code of ethics applies to the city as to individuals in the treatment and solution of questions like this. Now my idea is this: That the city deal with the water company with a view of taking over this property; that a thoroughly competent expert, a man who is above suspicion and without price, and there are plenty of them in the country even if we have to go as far as New York for him, let such a man be employed I say, and let him come here and thoroughly expert this property and say what it is worth, he to take into consideration what the company owns, including the franchise which has yet fourteen years to run and the contract with the city, and all that. When this work has been done by a man, such as I have indicated, the price fixed by him, it should be satisfactory alike to the city and to the water company. Then you have some basis for an agreement, and upon such a basis it should not be difficult for the two parties to get together.

"It has been suggested, and it may be a good suggestion, as to that, however, I do not care to express an opinion, that the mayor and city council appoint a commission of say five or seven men, selected from our leading business men, whose duties would be to take up and go into this whole matter, and as advisory only to the city council, solve the problems involved and settle this matter intelligently and fairly for all time. In the language of the day, my suggestion is, 'Do it now.'"

Something good. That free lunch at the White Elephant tonight.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

WANTED—Lady or gentleman of fair education, to travel for a firm of $250,000 capital. Salary, $1,072 per year, and expenses; paid weekly, and expenses advanced. Address, with stamp, J. A. Alexander, Albuquerque, N. M.

FOUND—A lady's watch. Owner may have same by calling at this office and describing property.

FOR SALE — Alaskan refrigerator and gasoline stove, very cheap. 124 South Edith street.

FOR SALE—Three or four No. 2, Smith Premier typewriters, in good condition; cheap for cash. Geo. S. Ramsay, corner of Fourth street and Railroad avenue.